

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of:

Masaharu Iwai et al.

Serial No.: 09/868,907

Group Art Unit: 2832

Filed: July 9, 2001

Examiner: Lincoln Donovan

For: MAGNET ROLLER

Attorney Docket: 010879

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: April 22, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as shown on the following pages.

Claims 1-3 were pending in this application. Claim 1 is amended and claims 2-3 are canceled. Claims 4-8 are newly added. Thus, claims 1, and 4-8 stand for consideration in this application. The new claims are patentable for the reasons set forth below. New claims 5-7 are supported in the specification at page 9, lines 20-25, and claim 8 in Fig. 3.

Independent claims 1 and 4 both recite that magnetic pole peaks are aligned with the joining faces; amended claim 1 recites setting the directions of orientation magnetization of said each magnet piece facing the each joining face at an acute angle,

by converging the directions of orientation magnetization towards an outside of the magnet roller,

(this is explained below) while new claim 4 recites in the analogous position

by setting the sum of the angles of the orientation magnetization directions of said each magnet piece facing the respective joining faces at less than 90°.

The amendments follow: